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THE RELIGIOUS NEEDS OF ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMUNITIES ON THE MISSION FIELDS

Covering the Year 1920.

The post-war period is witnessing a marked increase in the size of the English-speaking Colonies in the large cities of Latin America and Asia; probably this increase is relatively greater in the number of Americans than of Britishers, for commercial and financial concerns of the United States and Canada are rapidly developing closer relations with lands across the sea. The Union Churches are becoming more deeply rooted in the lives of their communities where their growing moral and spiritual influences are a recognized and welcome power. A number of returned travelers have written the Committee in enthusiastic appreciation of the Churches they attended while abroad. In view of their larger potentialities, several Churches are feeling more than ever the urgency of buildings of their own, suited to their tasks. From various Union Congregations with which your Committee sustains a more or less direct connection, the following brief items are printed for permanent record:

Mexico City: Rev. O. W. E. Cook, Pastor. An encouraging growth in membership has occurred during the year, there now being 100 full members and 50 affiliated. The average attendance at Morning Service is 70 and at Sunday School 85. With more settled conditions, a vesper service has been resumed monthly. The Chapel has been attractively equipped and redecorated at an expense of \$3,000, which was raised locally. The missionary interest of the Sunday School and the assistance rendered by a good choir are worthy of note. The pastor has just resigned.

Tampico: Further letters have come, telling of the need of a Union Church in this growing center, where the foreign residents number 2,500 or more. A Sunday School of more than 100 members is successfully conducted. Suitable land and a Church building would be fairly expensive, but a considerable portion of the funds would be secured on the Field.

Panama Canal Zone: The Union Church is a vigorous, well-managed organization with Congregations at four or five points along the Canal. Funds are needed from the States for the building program.

(1.) *Balboa and Ancon:* Rev. Benjamin B. Knapp, Pastor. This is the largest Congregation, with a membership of 274, of whom 86 were added during the past year. Average attendance

at Church service are 150 and 75, and at the flourishing Sunday School, 695. The Church has a Men's Brotherhood, a Ladies' Society, and 3 Christian Endeavor Organizations; it supports a missionary in the Republic of Panama. Only the basement of the Church has been constructed; the main building is greatly needed; the Sunday School meets in various buildings and a real Church center is a necessity to a larger life for the Congregation.

(2.) *Cristobal*: Rev. Harry Owen, D.D., Pastor. This City is growing fast, and also the Church and Sunday School. A Parsonage has been erected during the year. The Pastor is in the States, busily engaged in a campaign for funds for all the Church buildings in the Zone. Your Committee has sought to cooperate with him in his estimable endeavor.

(3.) *Pedro Miguel*: Rev. Edwin M. Oliver, Pastor. Over 600 Americans reside here, 50 of whom, on the average, attend Church, and 100 attend Sunday School. The Pastor, who took up this work during the year, writes: "This is a Lock-City, and the majority of the men work some part of Sunday."

(4.) *Gatun*: Rev. Charles B. Mitchell, recently of Pittsburg, Penna., became Pastor of this Church in the Fall of 1920. The report for next year will be awaited with interest.

It has been proposed to the Federal Council of Churches that it furnish a home-base for these Churches which are under the American flag in the Canal Zone.

Rio de Janeiro: Rev. Isaac B. Harper, Pastor, was home on furlough during the year. The Church has 89 full members and 123 Voting members, with 34 additions. The Sunday services are held at an inconvenient hour in a Brazilian Church—a building is a pressing need. Boy Scouts and Camp Fire Girls are means of influencing the younger generations. "The work of the Union Church is steadily gaining a larger grip upon the life of the Community," the American section of which is rapidly growing.

Santiago, Chile: Rev. James H. MacLean, Pastor. Under progressive leadership the Church is extending its beneficent circles of influence, which, after 36 years of organized effort, reach far and deep. The membership is 36, with 8 additions during the year; average attendance is 120. Various auxiliaries are underbuilding the work, and a mid-week service has been instituted. "There has been a gratifying improvement in Church attendance, a noteworthy and commendable increase in our financial support, and a healthy activity in the Sunday School, the Young Men's Club, and the Ladies' Guild and the Choir."

San Juan, Porto Rico: Rev. F. E. McGuire, M.A., Pastor. This Union of former Methodist and Presbyterian Churches is entirely

self-supporting and maintains eight local charities besides contributing regularly to relief work abroad. There have been additions to membership at every Communion Service since the organization of the Church, the whole number now being 152, with 150 others as adherents. The Church provides the Pastor with an automobile. "The Protestant forces of San Juan will never go back to denominational work. The Union Church has demonstrated its worth."

Havana: The above report from San Juan might be helpful to the brethren in Havana that conduct small, denominational English services in four or five different centers every Sunday without seeming to feel that advantage would result from uniting their efforts. The Committee understands that many members of various denominations greatly desire a unified body in order better to present the cause of righteousness in this unfortunately all-too-popular resort.

Yokohama: The Rev. William Martin, M. A., died on February 26, 1920, after a most helpful ministry of five and a half years as Pastor; the Congregation and community deeply mourn the loss of this beloved leader. The Committee has placed among its records copies of the printed In Memoriam and Memorial Resolutions issued by the Church. The Church desires as successor a Pastor with both British and American relationships (which Mr. Martin possessed), "preferably a Canadian." The Committee nominated a suitable man, but when the call arrived from the Church, unforeseen conditions transpired which led the nominee to withdraw. The various Departments of the Church's activities have functioned regularly during the year, the Sunday School of eighty members being especially successful.

Tokyo: Since the resignation of the Rev. Dr. Doremus Scudder, the pulpit has been supplied by various missionaries and visitors. For six months of the past year the Rev. Dr. C. J. L. Bates served very acceptably as Acting Pastor. Although services must be held at a very inconvenient hour (the building is that of a Japanese congregation), attendance is very encouraging. A Church school of about 70 students is taught by the new missionaries of the Language School. Tokyo earnestly hopes that its great need for a Church plant will be supplied; the foreign community is also striving to secure a school for foreign children.

Kobe: Rev. Clarence H. Benson, Pastor. The English-speaking population has largely increased during the year. Twenty-eight joined the Church, making the full membership 84 and affiliated 49. The average attendance at the services of social worship on Sunday are 105 and 35, respectively, with 80 at Sunday School. Prayer services are held in homes on Tuesday evening, and in the Church on Thursdays. Record should be made of the great loss sustained by the Church in the death of Peter Fraser, Esq., so long

the Treasurer, and a strong, supporting friend of the congregation. An aggressive campaign is carried on to secure attendance at services by tourists.

Scoul: Rev. A. F. De Camp, Pastor. This Church has 116 attending members, mostly affiliated, and 30 absentee members. The principal service is held Sunday afternoon, in warm weather on the lawn of the U. S. Consulate General, with an average attendance of 80; Sunday School averages 50. The pulpit is generally occupied by others than the Pastor, who serves as "a superintendent" without salary. The offerings help support a Leper Home and a Deaf and Blind Home in other cities.

Peking: Rev. Robert W. Beers, Pastor. The membership of the Church has arisen to 397, with 146 added during the year. The service of worship is held at five-thirty P. M. in the Y. M. C. A. Auditorium, and the average attendance is 350, of whom about 30 are tourists. The Sunday School attendance is 100. A service for the U. S. Marines is held in their Barracks. The church is seeking to secure a greatly needed home for itself; its appeal to the U. S. Government, endorsed by the Acting American Minister, the American Chamber of Commerce of Peking, the Federal Council of Churches, the Committee of Reference and Counsel, and by this Committee, for the lease of a portion of unoccupied land on the old American Legation grounds was refused by the State Department.

Shanghai: Rev. Luther Freeman, D.D., Acting Pastor. The American Colony in Shanghai has grown to such an extent as to justify the consideration of developing the American Song Service into a Community Church. To coöperate in discovering and appraising the various factors in the situation, the Rev. Dr. Luther Freeman, recently Pastor of the Emory Methodist Church of Pittsburgh, Penna., has gone to Shanghai. The Committee understands that the entire religious situation of the city will be carefully surveyed, so that any new organized effort may promote the common program to the fullest extent.

Hankow: The Rev. J. Wallace Wilson, of the London Mission, serves as Pastor. The Church desires a full-time minister and has asked for an unmarried man, "preferably a Canadian." The Committee has diligently cultivated several suitable "prospects," but without success; a strong man is needed in this tremendous city in the heart of China. The Church owns a centrally located property with two fine, substantial buildings.

Manila: Rev. Louis O. Richmond, Pastor. This vigorous, self-supporting Union Church has many successful activities and largely attended services, helpfully touching the life of the city at innumerable points. The full membership is now 145; affiliated, 196;

added during the year, 113. "A flourishing Sunday School is the only roof-garden S. S. known." The annual budget for 1921 was oversubscribed through an every-member canvass; benevolences about \$600. There is a splendid spirit of coöperation. The Church has been redecorated, baptistry added, and an electric blower added for pipe organ.

Tourist Directories: The editions of the Tourist Directory for Christian Work in the Far East and India, and of a similar guide for Latin America, were exhausted two years ago. Your Committee has assembled material for a revised issue of the former, and, if funds are assured, proposes to print it, confining its scope to the Far East and making it as compact as possible.

We call attention to the estimable Guide to Missions in China recently prepared by the China Continuation Committee; it is very thorough and comprehensive for its size, and is fully illustrated. Each mission land visited by many tourists might well publish and distribute its own small handbook for tourists.

NEEDS: 1. Houses of Worship. The most urgent requirement in seven or eight cities is for *Houses of Worship*; the long continued use of inconvenient buildings of other organizations is a depressing obstacle to life and progress. The Committee laid this need before the various Mission Boards, asking each to enter its fair proportion of the total need of \$960,000 in its denominational budget in connection with the campaign for increased funds; a number of Boards responded very sympathetically, several accepted their proportion as objectives, but we believe only one Foreign Board, the Methodist Episcopal, has been enabled thus far to assist financially in this building program, making a generous capital grant to the Canal Zone Union Church. Some way should be found of helping these Churches to secure property funds in the home-lands.

2. Pulpit Vacancies: Just now nominations of Pastors are called for by Yokohama and Hankow; Tokyo Church is also vacant. Before the end of 1920 the terms of service of the pastors at Peking, Manila, and Balboa Heights, C. Z. will have expired. The Committee finds it difficult to secure for these important posts suitable men as soon as they are needed, and bespeaks your active coöperation in this matter.

3. Current Grants-in-Aid will be needed in 1921 by seven, possibly by eight, Churches, and the expenses for travel by pastors to and from the Field will be especially heavy this year, making the new budget a little larger than that of 1920. Therefore your Committee requests the continuance of the fully appreciated financial support upon which it is entirely dependent and for which it is deeply grateful.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

January 1st to December 31st, 1920

Receipts

Balance brought over from 1919.....	\$664.88
Through the American Board.....	500.00
" " American Friends' Board.....	50.00
" " American Baptist Society.....	600.00
" " Canadian Baptist Board.....	50.00
" " United Brethren in Christ.....	200.00
" " United Christian Missionary Society.....	200.00
" " Christian Woman's Board (2 years).....	300.00
" " Evangelical Association.....	50.00
" " United Lutheran Board.....	100.00
" " Methodist Board.....	1,200.00
" " Southern Methodist Board.....	300.00
" " Canadian Methodist Society.....	310.15
" " Northern Presbyterian Board.....	1,200.00
" " Southern Presbyterian Executive Committee.....	500.00
" " Canadian Presbyterian Board.....	400.00
" " United Presbyterian Board.....	50.00
" " Reformed Board of America.....	200.00
" " Reformed Board in U. S.....	200.00
" " Seventh Day Adventist Conference.....	200.00
" " World's Sunday School Association.....	100.00
" " Young Men's Christian Association.....	600.00
" " Young Women's Christian Association.....	50.00
" " Committee	785.00
Total	\$8,810.03

Expenditures

Peking Union Church.....	\$1,000.00
Tokyo Union Church.....	1,000.00
Yokohama Union Church.....	1,000.00
Kobe Union Church.....	1,000.00
Mexico City Union Church.....	1,000.00
Rio de Janeiro Union Church.....	1,000.00
Shanghai Community Church.....	500.00
Union Church, Santiago.....	600.00
Transportation of Pastor.....	1,686.40
Cablegrams and Telegrams.....	19.08
Total	\$8,805.48
Balance on Hand December 31st, 1920.....	\$4.55

Proposed Budget for 1921

Yokohama Union Church.....	\$1,000.00
Tokyo Union Church.....	500.00
Kobe Union Church.....	1,000.00
Peking Union Church.....	1,000.00
Mexico City Union Church.....	500.00
Rio de Janeiro Union Church.....	1,000.00
Santiago Union Church.....	600.00
Transportation of Pastors.....	3,000.00
Third Edition of Tourist Directory of Far East.....	800.00
Cablegrams and Telegrams.....	40.00
	\$9,440.00

Recommendations to the Conference: The Committee has voted to refer to this Conference with recommendation for favorable action the two following important matters:

1. The provision by the proper authority for religious services on Sundays on vessels owned, operated or controlled by the United States Shipping Board.

2. The transfer of the functions of this Committee to the Committee of Reference and Counsel, placing them in the hands of a sub-committee. In accordance with the Constitutional requirements of

- the Conference, the Committee, on December 14, 1920, sent to the Constituent bodies notice of this proposed change. It is, of course, expected that if this change is made the special contributions for Union Churches will be continued.

The term of service of two members of the Committee, Dr. Chester and Mr. Horne, expires with this Conference.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPHEN BAKER,
S. H. CHESTER,
FRANK A. HORNE.

R. P. MACKAY,
GEORGE T. SCOTT,
JAMES M. SPEERS.

